Appl. No. 10/074,532 Response to Restriction/Election Requirement of 11/23/05

Applicants elect, with traverse, Group II, Claims 12 to 17 directed to a **connector**. Applicants traverse concerns the finding that each of the independent claims of each of Groups I to IV is separately useable. This is not necessarily the case. For example, the cap of Claim 1 is usable with the connector of Claim 12. Also, the method of Claim 18 is useable with the method of Claim 27.

Respectfully submitted,

BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC

Robert W. Connors

Reg. No. 46,639 Customer No.: 29200

Dated: December 9, 2005